

The Hon. Secretary gave an account of the steps he had taken to get into touch with the Divisions of the B.M.A. in order to elicit the sympathy of the Association on the Salary Scale of the Society M.O.H.

The meeting then proceeded to discuss the Midwives Act and the Rules of the C.M.B., in accordance with the request contained in the letter received from the Executive Secretary.

Dr. Pearce proposed that in those county districts which employed a full time M.O.H., the midwives practising in the district, should be under the control of the local M.O.H. Dr. Williams seconded.

Dr. Buchan proposed as an amendment that the question should be referred to a conference between the Non-County Group and the Association of County M.O.H. Dr. Bertram Hill seconded.

After some discussion the President put the amendment to the meeting, which he declared carried.

Dr. Jervus outlined some of the points in the Act and the rules of the Board, which need consideration and possibly amendment by the Board.

Dr. Gibson proposed that the period of training of untrained nurses be extended from 6 to 9 months, and for trained nurses from 4 to 6 months. This was seconded by Dr. Buchan, and on being put to the meeting was declared carried.

Dr. Buchan then proposed "That the C.M.B. certificate should be withdrawn from those women who have ceased to practice midwifery, and that it be made a consideration of the granting of the certificate that women be expected to practice midwifery for a specified time. This proposition was not carried.

Dr. Moore proposed that "The names of those women who hold the C.M.B. and who do not practice midwifery should be entered on a separate list in the register."

Dr. Gibson proposed "That consideration be given by the C.M.B. to the regulation of the practice of monthly nurses." Seconded by Dr. Banks and carried.

Dr. Moore proposed "That the attention of the Central Council of the Society M.O.H., be directed to the consideration of the voluntary notification of pregnancy. Seconded by Dr. Gibson and carried.

Dr. Gibson proposed "That Rule 19 of the C.M.B. should be extended to read that the midwife must not administer any drug, including anæsthetics, other than a simple aperient and

Ergot." Seconded by Dr. Bertram Hill, and carried.

Time did not permit of a discussion of the draft of the duties of M.O.H., which had been referred to the Branch by the Executive Secretary. Dr. Moore suggested that the Hon. Secretary should write and inquire of the Executive Secretary on what date this draft was received at the Society's office in London.

NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

Meeting held in Manchester on Friday, 16th February, 1923.

Present.—Dr. Wilkinson (chair) and 26 members. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr. Meredith Young read a very interesting paper on "Constructive Birth Control" (to be published shortly in the Journal), which led to a good discussion joined in by Drs. Wilkinson, Dearden, Daley, Wood, Sharpe, and Moffatt. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Meredith Young, who replied to the many questions raised.

The members considered various points requiring revision in the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, including suggestions sent in by Drs. Rees Jones, Veitch Clark, Milligan, and Sharpe, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to embody them in a memorandum for submission to the Committee of the Society dealing with the matter.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

Meeting held in the Medical Institute, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Friday, 23rd February, 1923.

Present.—Dr. T. Eustace Hill (Vice-President) and 6 members.

The minutes of the last meeting (12th January, 1923) having appeared in "Public Health," were taken as read, and signed by the Chairman.

The Honorary Secretary read a letter from the Executive Secretary asking for a report from the Branch as to the working of the Midwives Acts and the Rules of the Central Midwives Board.

Salaries Scale.—The Hon. Secretary made reference to the article by Dr. G. F. Buchan on the above in the current number of "Public Health," and the Chairman emphasized the necessity for all members to get into close touch with the representatives of their respective B.M.A. Divisions. Dr. Hill also said that he was attending a meeting of the Local Division next week, when this matter was coming up for discussion, for the definite purpose of explaining the proposals.